

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled).

2. (Canceled).

3. (Canceled).

4. (Canceled).

5. (Currently Amended) A spread spectrum communication system comprising:

a receiving unit configured to receive a communication quality of a communication channel between an equipment and a counterpart equipment; and

a control unit configured to control a transmission band width and a transmission power of a counterpart equipment depending upon said communication quality,

wherein when said communication quality is not degraded below a predetermined level and the transmission power is not minimum, the transmission power is lowered, and wherein, when the transmission band width is varied, a ratio of total bits to error correction bits of an error correction code used in signal transmission between the equipment and the counterpart equipment is changed from a current ratio of total bits to error correction bits, while maintaining a same amount of data output per unit period by the error correction code.

6. (Canceled).

7. (Currently Amended) A spread spectrum communication system comprising:

a receiving unit configured to receive a communication quality of a communication channel between an equipment and a counterpart equipment; and

a control unit configured to control a transmission band width and a transmission power of a counterpart equipment depending upon said communication quality,

wherein when said communication quality is not degraded below a predetermined level and the transmission power is minimum, and when a vacant band is present in a narrower band than a currently used frequency band, the frequency band is varied to narrower band, and

wherein, when the transmission band width is varied, a ratio of total bits to error correction bits of an error correction code used in signal transmission between the equipment and the counterpart equipment is changed from a current ratio of total bits to error correction bits, while maintaining a same amount of data output per unit period by the error correction code.

8. (Currently Amended) A spread spectrum communication system comprising:
a receiving unit configured to receive a communication quality of a communication channel between an equipment and a counterpart equipment; and

a control unit configured to control a transmission band width and a transmission power of a counterpart equipment depending upon said communication quality,

wherein said communication quality is classified into three levels depending upon degree, when said communication quality is in medium level, and

wherein said control unit varies the transmission band width in preference to varying the transmission power, and

wherein, when the transmission band width is varied, a ratio of total bits to error correction bits of an error correction code used in signal transmission between the equipment and the counterpart equipment is changed from a current ratio of total bits to error correction bits, while maintaining a same amount of data output per unit period by the error correction code.

9. – 13. (Canceled).

14. (Currently Amended) A spread spectrum communication method comprising:
receiving, by an equipment engaged in communications with a counterpart equipment, a communication quality of a communication channel used for the communications between the equipment and the counterpart equipment; and

controlling a transmission band width and a transmission power of a counterpart equipment depending upon said communication quality,

wherein when said communication quality is degraded below a predetermined level, said control step varies a transmission band to a wider frequency band when a vacant band is present in a wider band than a currently used frequency band, and

wherein said control unit varies the transmission band width in preference to varying the transmission power, and

wherein, when the transmission band width is varied, a ratio of total bits to error correction bits of an error correction code used in signal transmission between the equipment and the counterpart equipment is changed from a current ratio of total bits to error correction bits, while maintaining a same amount of data output per unit period by the error correction code.

15. (Currently Amended) A spread spectrum communication method comprising: receiving, by an equipment engaged in communications with a counterpart equipment, a communication quality of a communication channel used for the communications between the equipment and the counterpart equipment; and

controlling a transmission band width and a transmission power of a counterpart equipment depending upon said communication quality,

wherein when said communication quality is degraded below a predetermined level, said control step increases a transmission power when a vacant band is not present in a wider band than a currently used frequency band, and

wherein said control step varies the transmission band width in preference to varying the transmission power, and

wherein, when the transmission band width is varied, a ratio of total bits to error correction bits of an error correction code used in signal transmission between the equipment and the counterpart equipment is changed from a current ratio of total bits to error correction bits, while maintaining a same amount of data output per unit period by the error correction code.

16. (Currently Amended) A spread spectrum communication method comprising: receiving, by an equipment engaged in communications with a counterpart equipment, a communication quality of a communication channel used for the communications between the equipment and the counterpart equipment; and

controlling a transmission band width and a transmission power of a counterpart equipment depending upon said communication quality,

wherein when said communication quality is not degraded below a predetermined level and the transmission power is not minimum, the transmission power is lowered, and wherein, when the transmission band width is varied, a ratio of total bits to error correction bits of an error correction code used in signal transmission between the equipment and the counterpart equipment is changed from a current ratio of total bits to error correction bits, while maintaining a same amount of data output per unit period by the error correction code.

17. (Currently Amended) A spread spectrum communication method comprising: receiving, by an equipment engaged in communications with a counterpart equipment, a communication quality of a communication channel used for the communications between the equipment and the counterpart equipment; and

controlling a transmission band width and a transmission power of a counterpart equipment depending upon said communication quality,

wherein when said communication quality is not degraded below a predetermined level and the transmission power is minimum, and when a vacant band is not present in a narrower band than a currently used frequency band, the current frequency band and transmission power are maintained, ~~and~~

wherein said control step varies the transmission band width in preference to varying the transmission power, and

wherein, when the transmission band width is varied, a ratio of total bits to error correction bits of an error correction code used in signal transmission between the equipment and the counterpart equipment is changed from a current ratio of total bits to error correction bits, while maintaining a same amount of data output per unit period by the error correction code.

18. (Currently Amended) A spread spectrum communication method comprising: receiving, by an equipment engaged in communications with a counterpart equipment, a communication quality of a communication channel used for the communications between the equipment and the counterpart equipment; and

controlling a transmission band width and a transmission power of a counterpart equipment depending upon said communication quality,

wherein when said communication quality is not degraded below a predetermined level and the transmission power is minimum, and when a vacant band is present in a narrower band than a currently used frequency band, the frequency band is varied to narrower band,

wherein, when the transmission band width is varied, a ratio of total bits to error correction bits of an error correction code used in signal transmission between the equipment and the counterpart equipment is changed from a current ratio of total bits to error correction bits, while maintaining a same amount of data output per unit period by the error correction code.

19. (Currently Amended) A spread spectrum communication method comprising: receiving, by an equipment engaged in communications with a counterpart equipment, a communication quality of a communication channel used for the communications between the equipment and the counterpart equipment; and

controlling a transmission band width and a transmission power of a counterpart equipment depending upon said communication quality,

wherein said communication quality is classified into three levels depending upon degree, when said communication quality is in medium level, said control step maintains current frequency band and transmission power, and

wherein said control step varies the transmission band width in preference to varying the transmission power,

wherein, when the transmission band width is varied, a ratio of total bits to error correction bits of an error correction code used in signal transmission between the equipment and the counterpart equipment is changed from a current ratio of total bits to error correction bits, while maintaining a same amount of data output per unit period by the error correction code.

20. – 22. (Canceled).

23. (Currently Amended) A spread spectrum communication system comprising: a receiving unit configured to receive a communication quality of a communication channel between an equipment and a counterpart equipment; and

a control unit configured to control a transmission band width and a transmission power of a counterpart equipment depending upon said communication quality,

wherein when said communication quality is degraded below a predetermined level, said control unit varies the transmission band width in preference to varying the transmission power, and

wherein, when the transmission band width is varied, a ratio of total bits to error correction bits of an error correction code used in signal transmission between the equipment and the counterpart equipment is changed from a current ratio of total bits to error correction bits, while maintaining a same amount of data output per unit period by the error correction code.

24. (Currently Amended) A spread spectrum communication method comprising: receiving, by an equipment engaged in communications with a counterpart equipment, a communication quality of a communication channel used for the communications between the equipment and the counterpart equipment; and

controlling a transmission band width and a transmission power of a counterpart equipment depending upon said communication quality,

wherein when said communication quality is degraded below a predetermined level, said control step varies the transmission band width in preference to varying the transmission power, and

wherein, when the transmission band width is varied, a ratio of total bits to error correction bits of an error correction code used in signal transmission between the equipment and the counterpart equipment is changed from a current ratio of total bits to error correction bits, while maintaining a same amount of data output per unit period by the error correction code.

25. - 35. (Canceled)